

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: EB/ORF/OFJ:JAPLACKE:ML

APPROVED BY: EB:JAGREENWALD

S/S-MR ORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 040662

NODIS

FOR UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 40662 ACTION USDEL SECRETARY 20 FEB

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 040662 TOSEC 040116

NODIS

TO THE SECRETARY FROM EB - MR. GREENWALD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, EAGR

SUBJECT: FOOD POLICY COORDINATION ACTION MEMORANDUM
(S/S 7603560)

REF : STATE 39868 (TOSEC 40089)

1. AFTER CONSULTING WITH CHUCK ROBINSON, I WOULD LIKE
TO BRING ANOTHER CONSIDERATION TO YOUR ATTENTION. I
AGREE THAT THE APPROACH TO FOOD POLICY COORDINATION
PROPOSED BY SEIDMAN IS WORKABLE, RESPONSIVE TO AGRICULTURE
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SECTOR CRITICISM STEMMING FROM ITS PERCEPTION OF A

REDUCED POLICY ROLE FOR USDA, AND THAT IT WOULD PUT THE INTERIM COORDINATION ARRANGEMENTS ANNOUNCED BY THE PRESIDENT LAST SEPTEMBER ON A LONG-TERM BASIS. HOWEVER, ELIMINATING THE IFRG AND SUBORDINATING WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP TO A USDA-CHAired EPB/NSC SUBCOMMITTEE WOULD REDUCE THE LEVEL OF ATTENTION GIVEN BROAD INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY ISSUES WHILE GRANTING A ROLE TO THE EPB IT DOES NOT NOW HAVE AND GREATLY STRENGTHENING USDA IN AN AREA OF SUBSTANTIAL FOREIGN POLICY SIGNIFICANCE.

2. PUTTING USDA IN CHARGE OF ALL FOOD POLICY COORDINATION WOULD SATISFY BUTZ' CONSTITUENCY, BUT IT WOULD BE CRITICIZED BY THOSE WHO ADVOCATE U.S. LEADERSHIP IN

IMPLEMENTING FOOD CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS. SENATOR HUMPHREY, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT ON BOTH ISSUES; HE HAS MAINTAINED A CLOSE AND CONSTRUCTIVE WATCH OVER OUR FOOD CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES WHILE DEPLORING REDUCED USDA PROMINENCE IN GRAIN EXPORT POLICY.

3. AS AN ALTERNATIVE, I RECOMMEND THAT WE SEEK TO ESTABLISH THE NEW FOOD POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE UNDER STATE-USDA CO-CHAIRMANSHIP, ON A BASIS SIMILAR TO THE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON COMMODITY POLICY JOINTLY CHAired BY STATE AND TREASURY. THE NEW COMMITTEE UNDER EPB/NSC AUSPICES, WOULD DEAL WITH ALL DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS OF FOOD POLICY IN AN INTEGRATED MANNER.

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

DRAFT: EB/ORF/OPF:JAPLACKE INGERSOLL UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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